

BRYAN APPEALS TO CONGRESS TO PREVENT WAR

New York, March 30. — "As one who expects to live up to a citizen's duties, if war comes," William Jennings Bryan yesterday wired the following to the United Press:

"Miami, Fla.—To the Members of the Senate and House, Washington, D. C.: Exercising the citizen's right of petition, I appeal to you. The dispute with Germany has passed beyond the domain of diplomacy and some advise settlement with the sword.

"The metropolitan press, which tried to prevent the re-election of the president and failed, undismayed by a popular verdict of more than one-half million, now seeks to lash the country into a fury and urges the government to take part in the European conflict.

"To you and you only is given constitutional authority to declare war—war, which in this case may mean the signing of the death warrant of thousands, even millions of your countrymen, and the laying of previous burdens upon future generations. Before you take this blood upon your hands, consider, I pray you, first, that the wrongs which you would punish, cruel and unjustifiable as they are, are not intended primarily against this country, but are the acts of desperation directed against other nations with which the offenders are at war.

"Second — That our land is not threatened with invasion, but that we are asked to go 3,000 miles for a chance to fight.

"Third—That we have not the excuse for going to war that the European nations had. They had no machinery for peace. We have a peace plan offered by this nation to the world and now embodied in thirty treaties with three-quarters of the population of the globe.

"If you reach the conclusion that nothing but war will satisfy the nation's honor, is it too much to ask

that, by a referendum, you consult the wishes of those who must, in case of war, defend the nation's honor with their lives?

"As one who expects to live up to a citizen's duties if war comes, I plead with you to use all honorable means to preserve peace before you take the responsibility of plunging our beloved land into this unprecedented struggle, begun without any sufficient cause, and conducted by both sides in utter disregard of the well settled rights of neutrals."

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ENGLISH WOMEN TO WIN VOTE —REWARD FOR WAR WORK

London, March 30. — England's women have apparently won the vote—not through militancy, but by demonstration in war service and service at home that they are fitted for it. It was considered a foregone conclusion today that the electoral reform bill would be so amended in its final stages in the house of commons as to provide the franchise to England's women.

The suffrage plan will presumably go into effect at the next parliamentary elections, which means at the end of the war, since every effort is to be made to avoid a general election during the conflict forced by disagreement of parliament with the ministry. It will grant to women precisely the same rights of the ballot in selecting parliamentary officers as men now enjoy. The exact plan accepted by a conference of leaders and expected to be written into the electoral reform bill provides for six months' residence by women or the occupation of business premises as the only qualifications for the franchise.

The house of commons formally approved the outline of these reforms in a preliminary vote, but has not yet voted on the measure which contains them.

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Martha Mensch, 39, 538 Glencoe rd., Glencoe, dead. Heart disease.